

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00

OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-05 BIB-01 ISO-00

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INFO USMISSION NATO

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBFR VIENNA 0153

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: APRIL 3 PLENARY SESSION

1. AT THE APRIL 3 PLENARY MEETING OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS,
THE ONLY STATEMENT WAS DELIVERED BY THE HUNGARIAN REP
(PETRAN).

2. HUNGARIAN REP BEGAN HIS STATEMENT BY NOTING THAT A
TURN IS UNDER WAY IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FROM THE
DAYS OF THE COLD WAR TO COOPERATION ON THE BASIS OF PEACEFUL
COEXISTENCE. PETRAN RECALLED THAT THE EAST FAVORS THE
SUPPLEMENTING OF POLITICAL DETENTE BY MEASURES OF MILITARY
DETENTE. HE SAID THE CONCRETE AIM OF THE VIENNA TALKS IS
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AGREEMENT ON SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS OF ARMED FORCES AND

ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS AIM REQUIRES STRICT OBSERVATION OF THE AGREED PRINCIPLES OF MUTUALITY AND UNDIMINISHED SECURITY, PROCEEDING FROM THE REALITIES OF OUR DAYS -- I.E. THE CURRENT RELATIONSHIP OF FORCES BETWEEN THE TWO POLITICAL MILITARY GROUPINGS.

3. HUNGARIAN REP REBUTTED ALLIED CLAIMS REGARDING FORCE DISPARITIES, QUOTING THE JUNE 1974 ATLANTIC DECLARATION, DECEMBER 1974 DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE AND SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S FEBRUARY 20 TESTIMONY TO CONGRESS, AS SPEAKING OF MAINTENANCE OF THE PRESENT EAST-WEST FORCE BALANCE NECESSARY FOR CONTAINMENT. PETRAN CITED THESE STATEMENTS AS EVIDENCE THAT THE WEST ACTUALLY RECOGNIZED THAT A BALANCE DID EXIST BETWEEN THE FORCES OF EAST AND WEST AND THAT WESTERN ARGUMENTATION ON DISPARITIES WAS, THEREFORE, CLEARLY CONTRIVED.

4. PETRAN REJECTED WESTERN DEMANDS FOR COMPENSATION AS A PLOY TO GAIN WESTERN UNILATERAL MILITARY ADVANTAGES. HE ASSERTED THAT THE ALLIED APPROACH TO THE GEOGRAPHIC FACTOR WAS ONE-SIDED AND ARBITRARY, AND ENUMERATED ALLEGED OFFSETTING GEOGRAPHIC FACTORS SUCH AS THE GIGANTIC ARC OF U.S. MILITARY BASES IN EUROPE. PETRAN SAID THE ALLIED APPROACH WAS UNREALISTIC AND COULD IN NO WAY FACILITATE PROGRESS IN THE VIENNA TALKS.

5. HUNGARIAN REP CLOSED BY RECALLING NOV 8, 1973 EASTERN DRAFT PROGRAM AND BY NOTING BRIEFLY THE ADVANTAGES OF OTHER EASTERN FIRST STEP AND FREEZE PROPOSALS.

6. THE TEXT OF THE HUNGARIAN STATEMENT HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED BY AIRGRAM.RESOR

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